



NEWS RELEASE

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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SOUTH DAKOTA JANUARY 1 SHEEP INVENTORY

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. January 31, 2017 -- All sheep and lamb inventory in South Dakota on January 1, 2017 totaled a record low 250 thousand head, down 15 thousand head from last year, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Breeding sheep inventory totaled 193 thousand head, down 7,000 from last year. Ewes one year and older totaled a record low 155 thousand head, down 6,000 head from the previous year. Rams one year and older totaled 6,000 head, unchanged from last year. Total replacement lambs totaled 32 thousand head, down 1,000 from last year.

Market sheep and lambs totaled 57 thousand head, down 8,000 from last year. A total of 2,000 head were mature sheep (one year and older) while the remaining 55 thousand were under one year. Market lamb weight groups were estimated as follows: 10 thousand lambs were under 65 pounds; 9,000 were 65-84 pounds; 15 thousand were 85-105 pounds; 21 thousand were over 105 pounds.

The 2016 lamb crop totaled 161 thousand head, down 1,000 from 2015. The 2016 lambing rate was 121 lambs per 100 ewes one year and older, compared with 120 lambs per 100 ewes in 2015.

Shorn wool production during 2016 totaled 1.75 million pounds, down 70 thousand from 2015. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 230 thousand head, down 9,000 from last year. The average price paid for wool sold in 2016 was \$1.43 per pound, compared with \$1.26 in 2015. The total value of wool produced in South Dakota was 2.50 million dollars in 2016.

Access the national report for this release at:
<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/nass/SheeGoat//2010s/2017/SheeGoat-01-31-2017.pdf>

Access the National Livestock Executive Briefing for this release at:
https://www.nass.usda.gov/Newsroom/Executive_Briefings/2017/01_31_2017.pdf

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